

Kaneohe Bay Piers Amnesty Program  
Written Public Comments Received

- 1) "Last night I attended the Public Meeting on the subject. I was appalled at the \$20 per square foot bond requirement. No one could explain to anyone's satisfaction just what was the purpose of the bond. In my case, my pier would cost \$5000 plus the bond of \$6000 plus survey plus insurance. Better you come and take this pier down. It has been there for over 40 years and I have maintained it in good condition. It never was officially permitted.

At first, while I didn't think it fair to have to buy my own pier, I did understand that maybe the State had a point. However, now it has become ridiculous!

Then I discovered that my pier would cost me about \$16.00 per square foot, would cost my neighbor about \$32.00 per square foot and my neighbor on the other side about \$10.00 per square foot! This because you have chosen to use outdated valuations.

And further, my dock does not extend down into the water. Anyone who wants, and there are many, may fish and crab under my dock."

- 2) "The law covering this was passed June 20, 2000. It sunsets in 2005. No mention made of amount of money.

The POSO outline talked about agreements to reasonable fees – mine would be \$10,000 – this is not reasonable. The performance bond of \$20 per square foot is ridiculous. The Durham letter outlines fees in other state. Nothing approaches these proposed charges – all are rather nominal and acceptable.

The Corps of Engineers wrote me that I cannot remove the pier adjacent to my property for environmental reasons."

- 3) "Object to bond. Agree to formula."
- 4) "Why bond for those paying for 55 years? Bond is ridiculous – there is no need for a bond – we never needed one the past 26 years. We would want rent we paid since 1975 to be applied to 55 years lease rent. If not, it is not fair to us who paid rent (200+ people did not pay a cent)."
- 5) "
  - Liability insurance
  - Performance bond – outrageous!
  - Pier owners did not have a public hearing regarding the recommendation by staff at the 2/23/01 to charge 50% -- taxation without representation!
  - Deadline unrealistic! July 13, 2002!"
- 6) "No need for performance bond – piers will be kept in good condition. No need for extra insurance of \$500,000/\$300,000. Rent is too high – commercial rent seems 30-50%."

- 7) "Strongly object to having to pay performance bond if paying one-time fee."
- 8) "My wife and I attended the Kaneohe Bay Informational Meeting on Thursday, September 27, 2001 at 6:00 p.m. at the Kaneohe community and senior center concerning the Kaneohe Bay Amnesty Program. We have attended many pier owners meetings since 1998 and several DLNR board meetings.

We want to participate in the program, as long as the fees for the complete lease program remain within reason. The pier has been in existence when my father purchased the property in 1973. He maintained it until he passed away in 1997, and then I inherited the property. What started to be a program where pier owners would not have to pay more than \$5,000 is now gone as high as \$20,000 without factoring in appraisal, survey, insurance and now performance bond costs. The performance bond now changes the whole reasonableness of this program and is totally outrageous.

We now estimate the pier cost to go well over \$45,000 based on what you are now requiring. If this is so we can't afford this lease. In addition to this expense, the city & county is requiring the Kahaluu property owners to convert from our present cesspool to a low pressure sewer system at a cost yet to be determined to the home owners which will be an additional drain to our finances.

It seems that staff has changed hands over the past three years and three months and concerns and recommendations of pier owners were not taken into consideration when staff made the 50% methodology recommendation to the DLNR board. Staff had no written report from other states to compare the cost of this methodology and did not bring it to a public hearing prior to the board passing it. Colleen Meyer's written research regarding other state fees or lease rent charges for use of submerged lands for a residential non-commercial piers seems more accurate and reasonable than what the staff came up with.

July 13, 2001 started the pier owners lease program and the lease requirement are not set and still being changed without our knowledge.

We do thank you for your time and effort in working with the pier owners, and we ask you to present our concerns to the board."